and Kashmir and to seek the early restoration of democracy in Pakistan should contribute to promoting peace and stability in the region.

Declaring Pakistan a terrorist State

†1570. SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is necessary that United States of America should declare Pakistan a terrorist State so that India declares Pakistan a terrorist state;

(b) if not, the reasons for Pakistan not being declared a terrorist State by India, so far;

(c) whether Government are taking all measures to declare Pakistan a terrorist State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (d) In its interaction with the United States at political and official levels, Government have on numerous occasions made known their views on Pakistan's sponsorship of terrorism against India as a matter of state policy. US Spokesmen have stated that there is evidence of general support and of ties between agencies of the Pakistan Government and terrorist groups operating in Kashmir.

Government have also been appropriately and effectively bringing to the attention of the international community the facts regarding Pakistan's continued state sponsorship of terrorism against India. These have also been raised at high level bilateral discussion with world leaders. The international community now openly recognizes Pakistan's state sponsorship of terrorism and the impact this has on the security of the country and the region. This is now increasingly reflected in official statements by several Governments and in the international media coverage on Pakistan.

Signing of CTBT

1571. SHRI C. M. IBRAHIM:
SHRI EDUARDO FALERIO:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.